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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,290	03/01/2004	Robert Frink		9518

7590 12/04/2006

James B. Eagle
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Suite 200
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EXAMINER

HEWITT, JAMES M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3679

DATE MAILED: 12/04/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Interview Summary	Application No. 10/790,290	Applicant(s) FRINK, ROBERT	
	Examiner James M. Hewitt	Art Unit 3679	

All participants (applicant, applicant's representative, PTO personnel):

(1) James M. Hewitt. (3) _____

(2) James Eagle. (4) _____

Date of Interview: 28 November 2006.

Type: a) ☒ Telephonic b) ☐ Video Conference
c) ☐ Personal [copy given to: 1) ☐ applicant 2) ☐ applicant's representative]

Exhibit shown or demonstration conducted: d) ☐ Yes e) ☒ No.
If Yes, brief description: _____

Claim(s) discussed: 8-18.

Identification of prior art discussed: N/A.

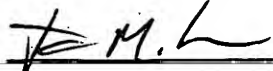
Agreement with respect to the claims f) ☒ was reached. g) ☐ was not reached. h) ☐ N/A.

Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: See Continuation Sheet.

(A fuller description, if necessary, and a copy of the amendments which the examiner agreed would render the claims allowable, if available, must be attached. Also, where no copy of the amendments that would render the claims allowable is available, a summary thereof must be attached.)

THE FORMAL WRITTEN REPLY TO THE LAST OFFICE ACTION MUST INCLUDE THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. (See MPEP Section 713.04). If a reply to the last Office action has already been filed, APPLICANT IS GIVEN A NON-EXTENDABLE PERIOD OF THE LONGER OF ONE MONTH OR THIRTY DAYS FROM THIS INTERVIEW DATE, OR THE MAILING DATE OF THIS INTERVIEW SUMMARY FORM, WHICHEVER IS LATER, TO FILE A STATEMENT OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE INTERVIEW. See Summary of Record of Interview requirements on reverse side or on attached sheet.

Examiner Note: You must sign this form unless it is an Attachment to a signed Office action.


Examiner's signature, if required

Summary of Record of Interview Requirements

Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), Section 713.04, Substance of Interview Must be Made of Record

A complete written statement as to the substance of any face-to-face, video conference, or telephone interview with regard to an application must be made of record in the application whether or not an agreement with the examiner was reached at the interview.

Title 37 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) § 1.133 Interviews

Paragraph (b)

In every instance where reconsideration is requested in view of an interview with an examiner, a complete written statement of the reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action must be filed by the applicant. An interview does not remove the necessity for reply to Office action as specified in §§ 1.111, 1.135. (35 U.S.C. 132)

37 CFR §1.2 Business to be transacted in writing.

All business with the Patent or Trademark Office should be transacted in writing. The personal attendance of applicants or their attorneys or agents at the Patent and Trademark Office is unnecessary. The action of the Patent and Trademark Office will be based exclusively on the written record in the Office. No attention will be paid to any alleged oral promise, stipulation, or understanding in relation to which there is disagreement or doubt.

The action of the Patent and Trademark Office cannot be based exclusively on the written record in the Office if that record is itself incomplete through the failure to record the substance of interviews.

It is the responsibility of the applicant or the attorney or agent to make the substance of an interview of record in the application file, unless the examiner indicates he or she will do so. It is the examiner's responsibility to see that such a record is made and to correct material inaccuracies which bear directly on the question of patentability.

Examiners must complete an Interview Summary Form for each interview held where a matter of substance has been discussed during the interview by checking the appropriate boxes and filling in the blanks. Discussions regarding only procedural matters, directed solely to restriction requirements for which interview recordation is otherwise provided for in Section 812.01 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, or pointing out typographical errors or unreadable script in Office actions or the like, are excluded from the interview recordation procedures below. Where the substance of an interview is completely recorded in an Examiners Amendment, no separate Interview Summary Record is required.

The Interview Summary Form shall be given an appropriate Paper No., placed in the right hand portion of the file, and listed on the "Contents" section of the file wrapper. In a personal interview, a duplicate of the Form is given to the applicant (or attorney or agent) at the conclusion of the interview. In the case of a telephone or video-conference interview, the copy is mailed to the applicant's correspondence address either with or prior to the next official communication. If additional correspondence from the examiner is not likely before an allowance or if other circumstances dictate, the Form should be mailed promptly after the interview rather than with the next official communication.

The Form provides for recordation of the following information:

- Application Number (Series Code and Serial Number)
- Name of applicant
- Name of examiner
- Date of interview
- Type of interview (telephonic, video-conference, or personal)
- Name of participant(s) (applicant, attorney or agent, examiner, other PTO personnel, etc.)
- An indication whether or not an exhibit was shown or a demonstration conducted
- An identification of the specific prior art discussed
- An indication whether an agreement was reached and if so, a description of the general nature of the agreement (may be by attachment of a copy of amendments or claims agreed as being allowable). Note: Agreement as to allowability is tentative and does not restrict further action by the examiner to the contrary.
- The signature of the examiner who conducted the interview (if Form is not an attachment to a signed Office action)

It is desirable that the examiner orally remind the applicant of his or her obligation to record the substance of the interview of each case. It should be noted, however, that the Interview Summary Form will not normally be considered a complete and proper recordation of the interview unless it includes, or is supplemented by the applicant or the examiner to include, all of the applicable items required below concerning the substance of the interview.

A complete and proper recordation of the substance of any interview should include at least the following applicable items:

- 1) A brief description of the nature of any exhibit shown or any demonstration conducted,
- 2) an identification of the claims discussed,
- 3) an identification of the specific prior art discussed,
- 4) an identification of the principal proposed amendments of a substantive nature discussed, unless these are already described on the Interview Summary Form completed by the Examiner,
- 5) a brief identification of the general thrust of the principal arguments presented to the examiner,
(The identification of arguments need not be lengthy or elaborate. A verbatim or highly detailed description of the arguments is not required. The identification of the arguments is sufficient if the general nature or thrust of the principal arguments made to the examiner can be understood in the context of the application file. Of course, the applicant may desire to emphasize and fully describe those arguments which he or she feels were or might be persuasive to the examiner.)
- 6) a general indication of any other pertinent matters discussed, and
- 7) if appropriate, the general results or outcome of the interview unless already described in the Interview Summary Form completed by the examiner.

Examiners are expected to carefully review the applicant's record of the substance of an interview. If the record is not complete and accurate, the examiner will give the applicant an extendable one month time period to correct the record.

Examiner to Check for Accuracy

If the claims are allowable for other reasons of record, the examiner should send a letter setting forth the examiner's version of the statement attributed to him or her. If the record is complete and accurate, the examiner should place the indication, "Interview Record OK" on the paper recording the substance of the interview along with the date and the examiner's initials.

Continuation of Substance of Interview including description of the general nature of what was agreed to if an agreement was reached, or any other comments: Mr. Eagle faxed a proposed amendment (see attached) in response to the final office action mailed 11/14/06. Examiner indicated that the replacement abstract and the amendments to the specification for the most part addressed the objections in the final office action. Examiner indicated that a phrase such as "The prior abstract is to be replaced with the following abstract:" should precede the replacement abstract, and the specification should be further amended to provide proper antecedent basis for claim 18 (old claim 16). Examiner also indicated that the proposed claims seemed to distinguish from the prior art of record, yet would be subject to further consideration and/or search. Examiner then indicated that filing of an RCE would allow entry of the proposed amendment, and that the 8/14/06 should be refiled with the RCE.

ESTABLISHED 1864

EDWARD D. SWEENEY 1864-1910
WILLIAM JACKSON 1864-1883
CHARLES L. WALKER 1878-1927
JOHN J. INGRAM 1910-1917
WILLIAM J. SWEENEY 1899-1936
EDW. L. EAGLE 1927-1975
ROBERT A. EAGLE 1947-2001

EDW. L. EAGLE, JR. (OF COUNSEL)
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* PATENT ATTY.

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November 28, 2006

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I hereby certify that these papers and/or fees are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Mr. James M. Hewitt
Commissioner of Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Application of Robert Frink
Application No. 10/790,290
Vehicle Exhaust System Hose and Coupling Assembly

Dear Mr. Hewitt:

Enclosed please find check in the amount of \$180.00 which represents the fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(p).

Enclosed also please find new claims 17 and 18. As per our telephone conversation, I am canceling claims 8-16.

Enclosed also please find Replacement Abstract and Instruction regarding replacing a certain paragraph in the specification.

Very truly yours

EAGLE & EAGLE

By _____

James B. Eagle
#35,496

JBE/tm
Enclosures

Replacement

ABSTRACT

~~The present invention is an~~ An improved de-coupling devise for vehicle exhaust systems specifically emergency vehicle exhaust systems. In this application, flexible hoses are normally utilized as a conduit for exhaust fumes. This invention incorporated a tether inside said flexible hose thereby alleviating tension on said flexible hose. The weight of the nozzle elbow and the natural moment that is produced when a fire truck leaves the fire station with the nozzle on offers an ideal application for the snap ring assembly. The tether and the flexible hose are typically straight or near straight and when the fire truck leaves the station, tension is supplied by the cable, and when a sufficient moment is generated, the nozzle breaks free.

INSTRUCTION TO REPLACE PARAGRAPH IN THE SPECIFICATION

With regard to the DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENT
please replace the fourth paragraph which states:

“Referring to FIGURE FOUR, the Nozzle Snap Ring Mounting
Bracket 13 is welded to the inside circumference of the Nozzle 14.”

and place the following in its stead:

“Referring to FIGURE FOUR, the Nozzle Snap Ring Mounting
Bracket 13 is welded to the inside circumference of the Nozzle 14.
Said Nozzle 14 having an Inlet 24 and Outlet 25.”

Cancel Claims 8-16.

CLAIM OR CLAIMS

I claim:

17. New. A vehicle exhaust system hose and coupling assembly comprising:

a suspended pipe;

a flexible hose having a first end and a second end;

a nozzle having an inlet and outlet with a snap ring mounting bracket being disposed on said nozzle;

said flexible hose first end being connected to said pipe and said flexible hose second end being connected to said nozzle outlet;

a tether inside said flexible hose whereby one end of said tether is connected to said pipe and the other end of said tether is connected to said nozzle, said nozzle having a connector wherein said connector is a circular snap ring with at least one cut through said snap ring to accommodate mechanical expansion;

said snap ring being connected to the snap ring mounting bracket at a plurality of points by a plurality of legs; and

said snap ring being capable of connecting and disconnecting from a seat which seat is integral to a separate exhaust pipe adapter which said exhaust pipe adapter is capable of being attached to a vehicle exhaust pipe.

18. New. A vehicle exhaust system hose and coupling assembly of claim 17 wherein ambient air is allowed to infiltrate into the inlet of said nozzle.